

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 390 – HB 749

March 8, 2011

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (004598):** Requires a prescribing psychologist to file and update a notice with the Board of Examiners in Psychology with the names of the psychologist and the licensed supervisory physician, control and responsibility for prescriptive services rendered by the psychologist, and a description of the categories of legend drugs to be prescribed or issued by the psychologist. Authorizes a prescribing psychologist to prescribe or issue Schedule IV and V controlled substances. Requires a prescribing psychologist to maintain a copy of the protocol used at the psychologist's location. Requires the Board of Examiners in Psychology and the Board of Medical Examiners to jointly adopt rules governing the supervision of prescribing psychologists by physicians.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- Currently, licensed psychologists do not have prescription authority.
- The Board of Examiners in Psychology will develop applications, modify the current regulatory board computer system, evaluate continuing education requirements, and consider additional complaints as a result of the expanded scope of practice.
- Current Department of Health staff can perform computer modifications and assist the Board with applications and evaluations. Any costs incurred will be not significant and can be accommodated within existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.
- Any rule-making can be accomplished during regularly scheduled Boards meetings and will not result in a significant increase in state expenditures.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-3-1011, all health-related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. As of June 2010, the Board of Examiners in Psychology had a balance of \$291,214, and the Board of Medical Examiners had a balance of \$890,444.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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